Good News

This month’s publication will highlight Dr. Cathy Rozmus and the Clinical Training and Development Department at Texas Children’s Hospital (TCH). Dr. Rozmus joined UTHSC-H in August 2007 and started a clinical practice with TCH in October. She works primarily with Ms. Mary Ann Hoffmans, RN, MN, Staff Development Specialist.

Seven key processes form the foundation for the services provided by the Clinical Training and Development Department at TCH. All of these processes are vital to the mission of TCH which is to support the education of staff and students. The seven key processes are orientation, required training, performance improvement, preceptor development, educator development, student affiliations and ongoing development. Dr. Rozmus works with Ms. Hoffmans on the student affiliation team and the orientation team.

The work of the student affiliation team is based on the belief that the development of future nurses is critical to the continued provision of quality healthcare to patients and families. TCH is committed to providing environments that support the clinical learning objectives of the students. Two priority objectives that have been identified by the team this year are first, to enhance the orientation process for faculty and students to ensure consistency and secondly, to identify creative and innovative strategies for strengthening the relationships between faculty, staff and students. In addition to collaborating on the accomplishment of these objectives, Dr. Rozmus will be serving as the faculty for the STEP students in their independent study course. As coordinator for the UTHSC-H/TCH STEP students, she coordinates applications and facilitates students’ reflection on their clinical experiences as STEP students and role transition from student to employee.

The vision of the orientation team is that each new employee will be provided with a foundation to practice in a new organization and that the experience will be a positive one that makes him or her feel welcomed, valued and excited. One of the programs managed by this team is the new graduate nurse program, “Camp Discovery.” Dr. Rozmus will assist in the development of curriculum that will provide an academic perspective, thus assisting in bridging the gap between school and practice.

In this collaborative practice, Dr. Rozmus represents education of both nurses and other health care professions. The primary focus of the practice is facilitation and improvement in student clinical education and facilitation of transition from student to active professional. Issues are addressed from both the education and practice perspectives. Other activities include serving on the TCH Nursing Education Council and Interdisciplinary Education Council.

We are proud of Dr. Rozmus and the fine work she has started at TCH. Keep up the good work!

Regards,

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